

CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A composition ~~Composition~~ for the detection and early differentiated count of Gram-negative microorganisms ~~microscopic organisms~~, wherein the composition comprises it contains a mixture of substances of protein origin, inhibitors for Gram-positive microorganisms, and organic and inorganic substances, and wherein the substances of protein origin are selected from the group consisting of: pancreatic or papaic beef heart hydrolysate, enzymatic hydrolysate of milk proteins, microbial origin autolysates or hydrolysates, and dehydrated egg yolk proteins; the substances of protein origin comprising with a total nitrogen content from 9 to 20%, the ratio of substances of protein origin to inhibitors of Gram-positive microorganisms being in the mixture in a relationship between 2:1 to 24:1 in respect to the content of the inhibitors for Gram-positive organisms, the ratio of substances of protein origin to the and also containing a mixture of organic and inorganic substances, being this mixture in a relationship between 0.5:1 to 2:1 to the mixture of substances of protein origin.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 1 2, wherein the mixture of the substances of protein origin comprise ~~contains the~~ pancreatic or papaic ~~papainic~~ beef heart hydrolysate in an amount at a concentration between 25 and 75% of the total amount of the substances of protein origin ~~said mixture~~.

4. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1 2, wherein ~~the mixture of~~ the substances of protein origin ~~comprise~~ contains the enzymatic hydrolysate of milk proteins in an amount at a concentration up to 15% of the total amount of the substances of protein origin said mixture.

5. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1 2, wherein ~~the mixture of~~ the substances of protein origin ~~comprise~~ contains the microbial origin autolysate or hydrolysate a in an amount at a concentration between 15 and 25% of the total amount of the substances of protein origin said mixture.

6. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1 2, wherein ~~the mixture of~~ the substances of protein origin ~~comprise~~ contains the egg yolk proteins in an amount at a concentration up to 45% of the total amount of the substances of protein origin said mixture.

7. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1 2, wherein the ~~inhibitors growth inhibitory substances~~ for Gram-positive microorganisms ~~organisms~~ are preferably cholic and deoxycholic acids and bile salts.

8. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1 2, wherein the ~~mixture of~~ organic and inorganic substances are selected from the group consisting of: comprises oxides of bivalent metals and siliceous compounds; pH indicators; alcohols and chromogenic compounds splitted by one or more glycosidase

~~enzyme from one or more Gram-negative microorganisms that can be metabolized by enzymes of at least one of the organisms to identify; chromogenic compounds that can be split by enzymes of at least one of the organisms to identify; and growth promoting substances for Gram-negative microorganisms~~ organisms.

9. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 8, wherein within the mixture of organic and inorganic substances, the oxides of bivalent metals comprise ~~3MgO x 4SiO₂ x H₂O, and the siliceous compounds comprise~~ are preferably 3MgO x 4SiO₂ x H₂O and SiO₂xH₂O, and wherein the oxides of bivalent metals are present in the composition in an amount which are used at a concentration from 6 to 32% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

10. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 8, 4 wherein, within the mixture of organic and inorganic substances, the pH indicators are preferably phenol red and neutral red, and wherein the pH indicators are present in the composition in an amount which are used at a concentration from 0.03 to 0.18% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

11. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 8, wherein, within the mixture of organic and inorganic substances, the alcohol that can be metabolized by enzymes of at least one of the organisms to identify is 1,2-propanediol preferably C₃H₈O₂, which is used in amounts from 10 to 14 mL/L.

12. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 8, wherein, ~~within the mixture of organic and inorganic compounds,~~ the chromogenic compound ~~that can be split by the action of enzymes of at least one of the organisms to identify is~~ 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoxyl- β -D-galactopyranoside preferably X-gal, which is present in the composition in an amount used at a concentration from 0.15 to 0.3% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

13. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 8, wherein, ~~within the mixture of organic and inorganic compounds,~~ the growth promoting substances for Gram-negative microorganisms ~~organisms are selected from the group consisting of preferably~~ sodium and magnesium salts, nitrogen compounds of low molecular weight, and sulfured amino acids.

14. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 13, wherein the sodium and magnesium salts are preferably magnesium chloride and sodium carbonate, and wherein the sodium and magnesium salts which are present in the composition in an amount at concentrations from 0.03 to 32% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

15. (currently amended) The composition ~~Composition~~ according to claim 13, wherein the nitrogen compound of low molecular weights is preferably creatinine, which is present in the composition in an amount used at a concentration up to 3% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

16. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to the claim 13, wherein the sulfured amino acids are preferably cystine and cysteine, and wherein the sulfured amino acids are present in the composition in an amount ~~which are used at concentrations up to 1.25% of the composition~~ respecting to the total mass of the mixture.

17. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1, further comprising wherein within the mixture of organic and inorganic substances are included gelling agents, preferably agar with a hardness between 400 and 700 g/cm², which is present in the composition in an amount used at a concentration from 40 to 63% of the composition ~~respecting to the total mass of the mixture.~~

18. (currently amended) ~~The composition~~ Composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition has a pH value between 6.8 ~~6,8~~ and 7.4 ~~7,4~~.

19. – 20. (cancelled)

21. (new) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is in a dry base.

22. (new) The composition according to claim 18, wherein said composition is in a liquid medium, the liquid medium comprising 100 mL of water per 30g to 32g of said composition.